
Title: A Dark Discovery

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The grand city of Moonglow was always such a pleasure to visit. And it seemed that now was the most wonderful time to visit the greedy little city-state. Moonglow was being so incredibly aggressive these days that even I could stroll about its streets without worry. One would guess that most of the soldiers of Moonglow were being used to further Mayor GreyPawn's mad and foolish little gathering. I chuckled to myself every time I thought of what he was actually trying to do... To summon the Avatar... What utter and useless nonsense. The future certainly held something for that arrogant little worm but it would be in the form of a great evil... He was meddling in magic that went beyond even his understanding... And it would prove to be his complete undoing... In a most twisted and horrific manner...

But I had little time to ponder about the adventures of GreyPawn and Moonglow. Time was against me like it never had been before. The armies of the Regent had setup a small encampment on the mainland, just as I had expected and hoped for. Very soon I could begin to harvest their

souls with my soulstone
but first I must make
certain of my own
survival... To be free of
the blasted phylactery...

Luck was certainly not on
my side for this quest...
Both Moonglow and Wind
proved to have no
information as to how
one of my being could
break free of the
confines of the phylactery
and ascend to the next
stage of unlife... All I had
to go on was that
history book found within
the tower of Morn Cirith
in Caina... And I could
find nothing else!

I muttered the words of
recall and returned to my
private home... This
required all of my time
and focus... Once I am
free of the phylactery
then I would finally be
able to go about and
continue my harvesting of
souls... And then nothing
could ever hinder me...

I entered into my study
and took a seat at my
writing desk. There I
beamed over books of the
Dark Arts for what
seemed days. There was
nothing I could find that
I did not already know.
This was seeming to be a
hopeless effort and I
soon began to consider
my next move to make
against the Regent. There
were so many options
here. Should I show them
the true might of the
powers I command and
crush their little base
camp? Or perhaps
continue to defile places
they hold dear... And then
there was that ever
interesting little child...

"Lord Artisssem..." said a raspy voice.

I looked up from my books and saw that one of my shades had dared to enter into my study unannounced. My first thought was to destroy the foolish thing but I was not in the mood to do so.

"You come in here without my permission? I do so hope that this is worth the disturbance..." I said to the shade.

"Indeed mi'lord... I have found sssomething that ssshall interessst you... Sssomething of great importance..." it said.

"Well then be on with it and quit with the useless dramatics. What is it that you have found?"

"An old abandoned hut... Many thingsss of necromancy and undeath are there... On the Isssle of Fire it isss..." the shade answered.

I let out a yawn as to show I was not impressed with this. No doubt it had came across some sort of an abandoned lab. These things were rather typical and really not worth my personal investigation.

"Gather a few zombies and have whatever is in there brought here. I do not have the time to waste on this myself." I answered and returned to my books.

"But Lord Artisssem... Thisss place is ssspecial..."

It wasss once a place of
the twinsss..."

I quickly looked up from
my book and back to the
shade. If this place is
what I had already
thought it was then
perhaps... Just perhaps...

"When you say a place of
the twins... Then I trust
it is safe to assume
what I think?" I asked of
the shade.

"Yesss mi'lord... The
twinsss... Lathiari and
Kyrnia..." it said with
what seemed to be a
smile.

This was indeed great
news and such a
wonderful gift that fate
had bestowed me with.
The lich twins Lathiari
and Kyrnia were two of
the most powerful beings
in recent history to hold
great powers in the Dark
Arts. It had been many
years already since the
Sage Humbolt had brought
about their destruction...
To think that one of
their labs might still
exist was a treasure of
untold worth!

"You shall take me to
this place at once." I
demanded of the shade.

"Asss you wisssh, Lord
Artissem..."

In Eternal Darkness,

Rune Artisem
Lord of the Society
Overlord of Skara Brae
Minister of Race
Relations to Caina
The Society of Arcane
Shadows